

What is claimed is:

1. A radio communication system employing CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access) for radio access and providing multi-rate transmission, the radio communication system comprising:
  - a base station controlling apparatus;
  - a plurality of base stations; and
  - a plurality of mobile stations, wherein
    - one of (i) the base station controlling apparatus and (ii) the plurality of base stations includes a code switch informing unit for informing that a first code, having been used by one of the plurality of mobile stations, is to be switched to a second code,
    - one of the plurality of base stations includes a timing information sending unit for transmitting timing information regarding timing of switching the first code to the second code to the one of the plurality of mobile stations,
    - the one of the plurality of mobile stations includes a code switching unit for switching the first code to the second code, based on the informing by the one of the base station controlling apparatus and the plurality of base stations, and based on the timing information transmitted by the timing information sending unit of the one of plurality of the plurality of the base stations, and
    - the one of the plurality of base stations includes a switching unit for switching transmission code from the first code to the second code based on the timing information transmitted to the one of the plurality of mobile stations.

2. A radio communication method for a radio communication system employing CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access) for radio access and providing multi-rate transmission, the radio communication system including:

a base station controlling apparatus;

a plurality of base stations; and

a plurality of mobile stations,

the radio communication method comprising:

informing that a first code, having been used by one of the plurality of mobile stations, is to be switched to a second code,

transmitting timing information regarding timing of switching the first code to the second code to the one of the plurality of mobile stations,

switching the first code to the second code, based on the informing and the timing information transmitted, at one of the plurality of mobile stations, and

switching transmission code from the first code to the second code based on the timing information transmitted at one of the plurality of base stations.